

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
TO THE
PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY (PENZANCE DIVISION).
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST., 1938**

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the Year 1938, as follows:—

Schedule I. Amount of Shipping entering your Ports for the year 1938

The amount of Shipping entering the Ports within the jurisdiction of your Authority, which comprises Penzance Harbour and Docks, Newlyn Harbour, Mousehole Harbour, and the Harbour of St. Michael's Mount, during the year 1938, was as follows:—Foreign Steamers 69, with a tonnage of 21,251; Foreign Motor-vessels 357, with a tonnage of 11,033; Foreign Sailing Ships 17, with a tonnage of 342. Of these, 32 were inspected by your Medical Officer of Health, and 19 by your Sanitary Inspector. The Foreign Shipping Inspected was found to be in a satisfactorily clean and sanitary condition and no orders had to be made with respect to it.

The amount of Coastwise Shipping entering your Ports was as follows:—British Steamers 454, with a tonnage of 100,358; British Motor Vessels 188, with a tonnage of 38,159; British Sailing Ships 8, with a tonnage of 492; British Fishing Craft 102, with a tonnage of 2,820. The Coastwise Shipping inspected was found to be in a satisfactorily clean and sanitary condition and no orders had to be made in respect of it. Coastwise Shipping inspected comprised 57 by your Medical Officer of Health, 73 by your Sanitary Inspector.

Schedule II. Character of the Trade of the Port.

(a) PASSENGER TRAFFIC.—This is composed of Passenger Traffic to and from the Isles of Scilly. During the year 1938, the number of Passengers carried was as follows:—Inwards 8,250; Outwards 8,400.

(b) CARGO TRAFFIC.—This comprises mainly Coastwise Traffic of general cargoes and the shipment of general cargoes to and from the Isles of Scilly.

Exports from Penzance are chiefly Coal, (bunker); China Clay to Runcorn, Cardiff and Newcastle, and General Goods to the Isles of Scilly.

Exports from Newlyn are chiefly Shell Fish to Brittany and Ostend, Pilchards to Italy and Stone to home and foreign ports.

Imports at Penzance are chiefly Coal, Cement, Timber, Artificial Manures and General Goods from Home and Foreign Ports, and Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables from the Isles of Scilly.

Imports at Newlyn and Mousehole are chiefly Coal from Home and Foreign Ports.

There is an active Fishing industry carried on in the Ports of Penzance, Newlyn and Mousehole.

Schedule III. Source of Water Supply.

The source of the Water Supply for the Port of Penzance is the main water supply of the Town. At Newlyn, Water is obtained from the source belonging to the Newlyn Harbour Commissioners. The Water Supply for the Harbour at St. Michael's Mount is obtained from the West Penwith Rural District Council. There are no Water Boats kept in any of your Ports.

Schedule IV. Port Sanitary Regulations, 1933.

1. Declaration of Health are collected from the Masters of Foreign-going Ships arriving from Foreign Ports by the Officers of H.M. Customs and Excise, and are forwarded by them *via* the Office of the Port Sanitary Authority to the Port Medical Officer of Health.
2. All Vessels are boarded on arrival in Mount's Bay by the Officers of H.M. Customs and Excise.
3. Arrangements for the notification to the Port Medical Officer of Health of inward Vessels requiring special Medical attention have been made with the Wireless Station at Land's End, the Customs Authorities at Penzance, Newlyn and Mousehole, and the various Shipping Agents in Penzance and Newlyn. Such Vessels are boarded by the Medical Officer of Health or the Deputy Medical Officer of Health in Mount's Bay.
4. (a) Special anchorage for Ships in Quarantine for minor infections have been allocated in Penzance and Newlyn Harbours.
 (b) There is a special anchorage in Gwavas Pool, off Newlyn for Ships in Quarantine for major infectious diseases.
5. Standing exemptions from the provisions of Article 14—Nil.
6. Experience of Working of Article 16—Nil.
7. (a) Nil. (b) Nil. (c) Nil.
 (d) The Authority has made satisfactory arrangements for the accommodation of Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Small-pox and other Infectious Diseases at the Isolation Hospital of the Borough of Penzance.
 (e) Special Motor Ambulance Transport is available for such cases.
 (f) There is no special accommodation available for the supervision of contacts.

8. The Bacteriological or Pathological Examinations of Rats for Plague would be carried out by the Pathologist to the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro.
9. Any other Bacteriological or Pathological Examination required would be carried out by the Pathologist at the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro.
10. Any suspected case of Venereal Disease among Sailors is seen and treated by the Port Medical Officer of Health. The nearest V.D. Clinic is at Tuckingmill—17 miles away.
11. Cases of illness of non-infectious nature, or of accident are removed by Motor Ambulance Transport to the West Cornwall Hospital, Penzance.

Schedule V. Measures against Rodents

The Docks and Sheds adjoining are remarkably free from Rats. This freedom from Rats is mainly attributable to the fact that comparatively little Food-stuff is landed here, and that such as is landed is removed from the Docks at once and is not stored for any length of time in Sheds. The greater part of the Shipping using your Ports carries Cargo not likely to attract Rats, *ie.* Coal, Cement, China-clay and Stone. There have been no complaints about Rats from any Ships using the Ports during the past year.

Schedule VI. Hygiene of Crew's Spaces

Owing to the fact that the greater part of the Shipping using your Ports is Coast-wise, and therefore liable to frequent inspections, the number of nuisances in connection with the Hygiene of Crew's Quarters has been found to be very small. The Shipping inspected has been found to be generally in a satisfactorily clean and sanitary condition and no orders have had to be made in connection with either cleanliness or structural defects of Crew's Quarters.

Schedule VII. Food Inspection

1. Articles of Food chiefly Flour, Fruit and Fish have been periodically inspected and found to be of satisfactory quality. No action has had to be taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations of 1925, the Public Health (Imported Food) Amendment Regulations of 1933, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations of 1926, or the Public Health (Preservatives in Food) Regulations 1925 to 1927.
2. There are no Oyster Beds or Shell-fish Layings within the jurisdiction of your Ports. Shell-fish (Crabs, Lobsters and Crayfish) landed from British and Foreign fishing craft in your Ports are kept alive in store pots in Newlyn Harbour and marketed. The length of time that these Fish are kept in the store pots never exceeds 48 hours, and is usually less than 24 hours. The greater part of the Shell-fish caught is marketed in France. A negligible quantity is marketed locally.
3. No samples of Food examined in 1938 were sent away for Bacteriological or Analytical Examination.

I append Tables **A** to **J** as required by the Ministry of Health.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. LESLIE, M.B., B.S.,
Port Medical Officer of Health.

APPENDIX

Table A. Amount of Shipping entering the Port in 1938.

	Number	Registered Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number reported to be defective	Number of vessels on which defects were remedied	Number of vessels reported as having had, during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the M.O.	By the Sanitary Inspector			
FOREIGN—							
Steamers	69	21251	4	8	Nil	Nil	Nil
Motor	357	11083	11	8			
Sailing	17	342	—	—			
Fishing	306	9180	17	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Foreign ...	749	41856	32	19			
COASTWISE—							
Steamers	454	100358	23	37	1	1	Nil
Motor	188	38159	8	20			
Sailing	8	492	—	7			
Fishing	102	2820	26	9	1	1	Nil
Total Coastwise ...	752	141829	57	73			
Total Foreign and Coastwise	1502	183685	89	92	1	1	Nil

Table B. Passenger Traffic during 1938.

Number of Passengers—Inwards (all one Class)	8250
Number of Passengers—Outwards (all one Class)	8400
Transmigrants	Nil

Table C. Cases of Infectious Disease landed from Shipping in 1938.

Number of Cases in 1938—	
Diseases	Nil
Passengers	Nil
Crew	Nil
Number of Vessels concerned	Nil
Average number of Cases for the previous 5 years	Nil

Table D.

Cases of Infectious Sickness occurring on Vessels during the Voyage, but disposed of prior to arrival.

Number of Cases during 1938—	
Diseases	Nil
Passengers	Nil
Crew	Nil
Number of Vessels concerned	Nil
Average number of Cases for the previous 5 years	Nil

Table E. Rats destroyed on Vessels during 1938.
Nil

Table F. Rats destroyed in Docks, Quays, Wharves and Warehouses
Nil

Table G.
No Plague-infected, or suspected Vessel arrived in the Port during 1938.

Table H. and I.
Nil returns

Table J. Classification of Nuisances.

Nationality of Vessel				Number inspected during the year	Defects of Original Construction	Structural defects through wear and tear	Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to Health
British	752	92	—	1	—
Other Nations		...	749	89	—	—	—

